

Staff Report

for

Item 7

Discussion

September 11, 2002

U.S. Navy, Naval Base Point Loma tentative Order No. R9-2002-0002 NPDES Permit No. CA0109363

At the August 14, 2002 Regional Board public hearing for this Item, the Regional Board closed the public hearing and asked that the permit be modified according to the deliberation of the Regional Board. The Regional Board directed that the tentative Order be modified as follows:

1. Allow the Navy 4 years to conduct toxicity testing and data collection for the Regional Board in order to establish an alternative toxicity limit for industrial storm water discharges that will protect beneficial uses of the receiving water and to meet Basin Plan Objectives.
2. Establish a toxicity effluent limitation of 90% survival, 50% of the time, for industrial storm water discharges 4 years after the adoption of the tentative Order, unless the Regional Board establishes an alternative toxicity limit.
3. Remove sediment monitoring requirements.
4. Change the requirement for 3 years of sampling for 2,3,7,8-TCDD congeners to 1 year of wet and dry season sampling.

The errata sheet for this Item contains the modifications to the tentative Order, the Monitoring and Reporting Program, and the Fact Sheet. The attachments, maps, and appendices for tentative Order No. R9-2002-0002 have not been modified and are not included in the agenda package.

Background

The U.S. Navy installations in the San Diego area fall under the *U.S. Navy, Commander, Navy Region Southwest* (CNRSW) command structure and are aligned into three (3) major complexes:

1. *Naval Base Point Loma,*
2. *Naval Base Coronado, and*
3. *Naval Base San Diego.*

A separate NPDES Permit will be developed for each complex. Tentative Order No. R9-2002-0002 will regulate the discharges from the installations included as part of the *Naval Base Point Loma* (NBPL) Complex. The NBPL Complex includes the Navy installations listed below:

1. Naval Submarine Base, San Diego (SUBASE);
2. Magnetic Silencing Facility (MSF);
3. Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare Training Center, Pacific (FASW);
4. Navy Public Works Center, Taylor Street Facility (PWC TSF);
5. Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, San Diego, Point Loma Campus (SSC San Diego PLC);
6. Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Old Town Campus (SSC San Diego OTC);
7. Fleet Combat Training Center, Pacific (FCTCPAC); and
8. Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Pt. Loma.

Except for FASW, PWC TSF, and SSC San Diego OTC, NBPL installations are located along the eastern shore, western shore, and the interior areas of the Point Loma Peninsula at the entrance to San Diego Bay.

Point Source

The *point source* discharges, as identified in the report of waste discharge (RWD), are grouped into twelve general industrial processes:

1. Utility Vault & Manhole Dewatering;
2. Steam Condensate;
3. Diesel Engine Cooling Water;
4. The floating drydock, the ARCO, Ballast Tanks;
5. MSF Pier Washing;
6. Dolphin Pools;
7. Unused San Diego Bay Water;
8. Abalone Tanks & Bioassay Trailer Discharges;
9. Pier Boom Cleaning;
10. Mammal Enclosure Cleaning;
11. Small Boat Rinsing; and
12. Miscellaneous Discharges (landscape watering runoff, potable water & fire system maintenance).

An additional waste discharge included and prohibited in tentative Order No. R9-2002-0002 are discharges associated with ship repair and maintenance activities. The additional discharge is based on the information contained in the Regional Board's administrative records.

Descriptions of the point source discharges are included in the Fact Sheet for the tentative Order. The point source discharges are intermittent or low volume with a low potential threat to water quality. The tentative Order requires monitoring to ensure that the potential threat to water quality remains low.

Industrial Storm Water

Industrial storm water discharges occur at 5 of the 8 *Installations* at the NBPL. The installations are listed below.

1. Naval Submarine Base, San Diego (SUBASE);
2. Magnetic Silencing Facility (MSF);
3. Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, San Diego, Point Loma Campus (SSC San Diego, PLC);
4. Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Old Town Campus (SSC San Diego, OTC); and
5. Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Pt. Loma.

Provided in the Fact Sheet are a summary of the industrial activities; a brief description of the Navy's storm water working group; a discussion of the USEPA Multi-Sector permit; and a description of certain storm water monitoring analysis data.

The industrial storm water discharges from the SUBASE have significant levels of copper and zinc, which may cause or contribute to toxicity in the receiving water.

Effective 4 years after the adoption of the Order, the tentative Order requires the industrial storm water discharges from the SUBASE to comply with toxicity specifications. During the 4-year period prior to the effective date of the toxicity limit, the U.S. Navy shall conduct a study of the toxicity in the industrial storm water discharges.

The tentative Order requires additional monitoring of the industrial storm water discharges if the concentrations of copper exceed 63 µg/L or if the zinc concentrations exceed 117 µg/L. The Navy is allowed time to modify and implement changes to its Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prior to resampling.

Radioactivity

Pursuant to the *Atomic Energy Act*, the Regional Board does not have jurisdictional authority to regulate the discharges of radioactive wastes. Therefore, this Order does not regulate discharges of radioactive wastes from nuclear submarine propulsion plants or from nuclear support facilities.

The Navy and the USEPA have conducted monitoring for radioactive discharges.